GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4186
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
PILOT PROJECT UNDER ON FARM WATER MANAGEMENT SCHEME
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar has been included in the pilot project under the `On Farm WaterManagement Scheme` for ground water exploration and water augmentation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to complete the above scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): There is no pilot project of Govt. of India under `On Farm Water ManagementScheme` for ground water exploration and water augmentation. However, a centrally sponsored scheme of `On Farm Water Management for Increasing Crop Production inEastern India` is under implementation in ten eastern States including Bihar.

(b): the details of the scheme are enclosed at Annexure-I.

(c): the scheme is approved for continuation during the entire X Five Year Plan period.

Annexure-I

DETAILS OF CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF `ON FARM WATER MANAGEMENT FOR INCREASING CROI PRODUCTION IN EASTERN INDIA`

i) The Scheme: A new centrally sponsored scheme of `On-Farm Water Management forincreasing Crop Production in Eastern India` has been launched during 2001-02 for implementation in all the districts of the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and Chattisgarh.Besides, 35 districts of EasternUttar Pradesh and 9 districts of West Bengal have also been included in the scheme. The new centrally sponsored scheme of `On-Farm Water Management forincreasing Crop Production in Eastern India` has been formulated to increase theproduction and productivity of not only kharif and rabi/summer rice but it will also facilitate the farmers to adopt diversified agricultural activities such as growing vegetables, fodder crops, oilseeds, pulses etc. The primary focus of the scheme is on the exploitation of ground/surface water and efficient utilization for increasing productiviy in the eastern region resulting ultimately in fetching higher income and reduction in poverty of the farmers of the region. The scheme would be for individual/group of farmers of the ten States.
v ii) Components of the Scheme: The components of the scheme are as follows:

- Assistance for installation of Shallow Tube Wells with pump sets for individual/group of farmers, - Assistance for community lift irrigation points (LIP) to groups of farmers, - Assistance for electric/diesel water pumping sets to individual farmers and - Assistance for dug wells in the plateau regions only.

iii) Nature of the scheme, implementation period and implementing agency: The scheme is a back-ended credit linked scheme and is being implemented through NABARD in coordination with the State Governments of the ten eastern Indian States.

iv) Funding pattern and GOI assistance:The funding pattern of the scheme will be at 20:50:30 basis i.e., 20% of the average unit cost will be the contribution of the beneficiaries, 50% of the average unit cost as loan from commercial/cooperative/Regional Rural Banks and the remaining 30% being the assistance from Government of India as subsidy. The average unit cost of each component is given by Regional Cost Committee of NABARD and varies from State to State.

v) Implementation period: The scheme has been launched during 2001-02 and will continue during the entire X Five year plan. At the end of the X Plan period, with the implementation of the scheme, an additional irrigation potential of about 34 lakh ha. will be created.

vi) Benefits envisaged: With the implementation of the scheme, assured irrigation at the command of the farmers will be made available by which significant increase in the production and productivity of rabi crops/ summer rice is achievable. With the availability of assured irrigation, the nursery raising during kharif season will be advanced and an additional yield @ 1 tonne per ha. will be achieved. Besides, farmers will be able to adopt crop diversification by including pulses & oilseeds and other horticultural crops.